Serenity Sentinel

FREEDOM

FAITH FRATERNITY

SEPTEMBER 1969 CAMP SERENITY, N.S.A.C., FOREST KNOLLS, CA 94933 VOL. 1, NO. 8

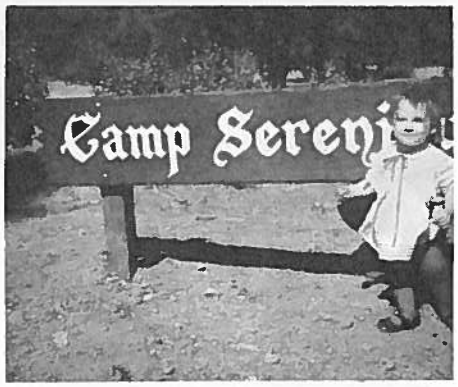
Our Little Member

Staff Reporter

It is with deep pride that Camp Serenity honors its youngest member on the occasion of her first birthday. Little Sherrill Jean Berness celebrates her birthday just two days prior to our camp's first anniversary on September 21, 1969.

Our Cherub spent a glorious day at our Beloved Spiritual Mountain Haven in the heart of Nature. She enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch near the symbolic "Triangle of Pines" and trod amongst the humble creatures of the woods. A child's laughter and joy filled our Chapel of Awareness as Sherrill Jean wandered about and looked with eyes aglow at the wonder and beauty of God's humble creation.

We are blessed with the knowledge that our little Sherrill will be the first and youngest student of the "Light of Serenity" Lyceum Class. Our children will have the opportunity of learning the pure Philosophy of our religion in honor of "The Father of The Lyceum", Andrew Jackson Davis, a great pioneer and founder, who through his remarkable mediumship, brought forth profound and scholarly works, which are the basic foundation for the Philosophy of Modern Spiritualism.



SHERRILL JEAN BERNESS

Our children will also learn the Universal Laws of God, both physical and spiritual, through demonstration and example.

Camp Serenity welcomes our little one to the first "Light of Serenity" Lyceum Class, an educational system for Spiritual illumination through education.

Life's Purpose

By Suzanne Bray

What do we conceive the purpose of life to be?

The purpose of life is the development of man's physical, mental, moral and spiritual endowments. There are many laws of nature, both physical and spiritual, that man must not transgress in order to reach the full spiritual development and growth that he is trying to attain. It is just as sinful to break a physical law of nature as it is to break a spiritual or mental-moral law of nature. There must be a harmonious interaction and balance of all man's endowments to grow and progress simultaneously and not separate and apart.

It is man's most important obligation to himself to develop his spirituality. When he has the desire to care for the "temple of the soul", develop his mental faculties, strive for morality plus spiritual progression and growth, the internal spiritual man within will unfold and the external world will be filled with light and love instead of darkness and despair. To love one's neighbor and to respect the laws of the land would put an end to greed, selfishness, hatred and materialism. **The Spiritual growth would be such that the Brotherhood of man and his love and desire to be of service to God and mankind would make this world a true "Heaven on Earth".**

God's Gift, The Butterfly

I saw a beautiful golden thing
whirling and twirling in the wind.
With touches of blue
on golden rings
It truly was a gorgeous thing.
Just like a leaf
Gaudy and frail
Here for a moment - gone when I look.

-- Audre Easterday

Another Milestone

Staff Reporter

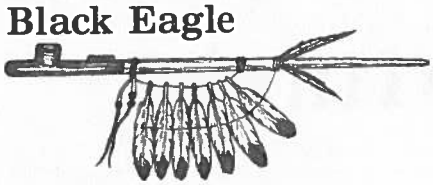
July 24, 1969 is significant in the history of our Beloved camp, for on that date, at exactly 3:00 a.m., our Lyceum was truly born! It was at that moment Spirit brought forth the name of our Beloved Educational System, "Light of Serenity Lyceum". We can look forward to a school at Camp Serenity organized and dedicated to the purpose and principle of spiritual illumination through education.

The Spiritualist Progressive Lyceum as founded by "The Father Of The Lyceum", Andrew Jackson Davis, has a connotation of a children's assemblage. It is the intention of Camp Serenity to offer a progressive system of spiritual education whereby adults as well as children will have the opportunity of learning the pure Philosophy of Modern Spiritualism in conjunction with the Laws of Nature, both physical and spiritual, which are the Universal Laws Of God. Our Spiritual Mountain Retreat, with its infinite beauty, has the highest spiritual vibrations and everywhere in nature the laws blend in perfect harmony and unity through demonstration and example.

Our Educational System will be coordinated with the purpose of early and progressive spiritual training and enlightenment with emphasis on continuity which will pave the way for spiritually illumined adults.

The green and white symbolic triangular emblem which Spirit designed, and also brought forth in the wee hours of the morning, will serve as a visual reminder of growth and spiritual illumination through education. The "Light of Serenity Lyceum" will indeed fulfill the destiny for which it was created that eventful day in our history, July 24, 1969.

Prayers of Black Eagle



Into Thy tender keeping do I place my being and all that which I call my own, Dear Lord. May I be drawn closer to Thy dear self. Victorious living awaits those who know Thee. My innermost being cries out for knowledge. Dear Lord, open my consciousness that I may be aware of every opportunity to serve Thee unselfishly. Show me the way that I may be of service to all mankind. Only through service may I glorify and magnify Thee. Always do I give Thee the honor and glory.

• • •

Contributed by Edna Kynoch of Minneapolis, Minn.

Said the Robin to the Sparrow:
"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so."
Said the Sparrow to the Robin:
"Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no Heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me."

Elizabeth Cheney.

Declaration of Principles N.S.A.C.

WE AFFIRM THAT THE DOORWAY TO REFORMATION IS NEVER CLOSED AGAINST ANY HUMAN SOUL, HERE OR HEREAFTER.

We discard entirely the terrible wrong and illogical teachings of eternal damnation and in place thereof we accept and present for consideration of thinking people the thought of the continuity of life beyond the change called death.

A natural life, where the opportunity for growth and progress to better, higher and more spiritual conditions are open to all, even as they are here on the earth plane of life. We accept no such teaching as a "Hell Fire," but we do teach that sin and wrongdoing will necessarily bring remorse and suffering that would be difficult to describe in words and which can only be relieved by the individual's own efforts if not here, then in the hereafter. If we make our own lives better while here and that of our neighbors happier we shall unfold that happiness or heaven on earth which we shall carry with us into the Spirit World.

Why I Am A Spiritualist

It is some 25 years since I became seriously interested in Spiritualism. As my parents were mediumisitic I grew up with much Phenomena, but with little knowledge except inherent instincts of the whys and wherefors.

After many soul searching experiences I found myself in a Spiritualist Church. Believe me, I was no overnight convert, though I found myself in attunement with the speaker that day.

I spent years questioning, observing and evaluating. I then discovered as I put into practice the laws and principles, they had become my blueprints of living.

It was as though the pieces of a great jigsaw were coming together. I found a new world. Why am I a Spiritualist? It has made me what I am today with no fears of tomorrow. My life has purpose.

Mavis Logan
Richmond, California

News From Salinas

The Brotherhood Spiritualist Church of Alameda was fortunate to have as a recent speaker, Erickson A. Lewis, pastor of the Temple of Light Church (N.S.A.C.) at Salinas, California.

The Lewis' spent some time in Alameda during the weekend of August 2nd and 3rd, during which time they visited at the home of Dorothy L. Lewis.

Mr. Lewis is an excellent speaker and an able billet reader. His subject for the Sunday Service was "Job's Question" which he answered in a most creditable manner.

The members of the Church's congregation were very pleased, not only with Mr. Lewis' performance, but with the charm of Mrs. Lewis. Both were delightful guests, and left with a warm invitation to return, which they promised to do.

Besides his Church, Mr. Lewis holds classes which are becoming the foundation for the Spiritualist College which he plans to organize. With a Spiritualist College and a Spiritualist Camp in our vicinity we should indeed feel blessed. -- **Dorothy L. Lewis**

THE REDWOOD CHURCH
N. S. A. C.
Science Philosophy Religion
Devotional Services
Sun. 10:45 A.M.
Rev. Clyde Dibble
Pastor
149 Clinton St. Redwood City, Calif.
Public Cordially Invited

Open Line

Send a message to a loved one by sending your request to: OPEN LINE. P.O. Box 137; Forest Knolls, CA 94933.

To my Darling Aunt Nina Ott - I send all my love and best wishes.

Your Loving niece Gene

Love and wishes of happiness in your Spiritual Home - to my brother Kerrie Milotte.

Your Loving sister
Audre

Love and greetings to Mother. Thank you for visiting me.

Your Loving Daughter
CB

Appreciation

Many of the beautiful messages found in your Serenity Sentinel come from folks like you that want to share with others their wonderful Spiritual experiences.

The Serenity Sentinal is the medium of sharing. Your contributions guarantee the publication. Feel free to let us know your thoughts with helpful suggestions.

For your convenience, our address is listed in the coupon on the last page of the Sentinel.

Thanks

Telephone Talks

Staff Writer

Strength

Psalm 138:3

In the day when I cried Thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.

The word strength suggests the ability to stand firm. It reminds us of the force within the great Oak, though many storms blow upon it, it is unbroken by them.

Strength implies the power to resist strain. It describes the stout hearted, the resolute and purposeful. It is the strength within us that comes only from the Spirit and is our source of physical well-being, intellectual might, and emotional stability.

Spiritual strength is within all of us. Some are better acquainted with it than others. Some call upon it more frequently, and consequently receive more abundantly.

The results are always measured according to each one's understanding and acceptance of the inner capacity.

But when we realize we are Centered in God and therefore contain within us the essence that is of his nature, we shall know just how complete is OUR strength.

Our cry is to the Divine within us and the Answer is always right where we are.

Camp Serenity Sentinel For September Calendar of Events

Friends are cordially invited to attend the first anniversary Dinner Social of Camp Serenity to be held on Saturday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m. For information please contact regional office, P.O. Box 137 Forest Knolls California or phone 415/456-5979.

Personal Responsibility

We believe in Personal Responsibility and regard the idea of Vicarious Atonement and its Sister Doctrine of the Fall as false and unfair.

The Twin Doctrines, as accepted by the Christian Orthodoxy, are unreasonable and do not appeal to the sense of justice and fair play. It is **unjust** to expect an innocent man to pay for the sins of the guilty and God is not **unjust.**

Each man reaps his own harvest according to the seeds he has sown and is responsible only for his own transgressions. He alone must pay the penalty or seek the rewards of happiness according to his obedience or disobedience to Nature's Physical and Spiritual Laws.

The Laws of Nature, both Physical and Spiritual, are manifestations of Infinite Intelligence and are immutable and constant. They never change. The wise and the ignorant alike must comply with Nature's Laws because Nature is impartial and ignorance is no exception to the rule.

Man's penalty for transgressing Nature's Laws is remedial and educational. The lessons are difficult and the corrections of mistakes many, but the learning process is necessary for the Spiritual growth and progression of the soul and is carried over after transition.

An individual is responsible for his own acts and salvation is a personal matter that comes from within. No man can justly pay for another's sins.

Salvation comes through self-effort, self-culture, and self-discipline. The sacrifice is great but the rewards everlasting.

It is a comfort to know that each man has infinite possibilities and when the goodness and beauty of the soul within is in tune with Nature's Divine Laws **all men** can outgrow ignorance and rise to unlimited Spirituality, growth and attainment.

– Suzanne Bray

I have a Wonderful Life
in a Wonderful Way
With God in my Thoughts,
there's Peace in my day.

Red Letter Day

Staff Reporter

Another red letter day was etched in the eternal now with the first fund raising social for the construction of the rustic Andrew Jackson Davis Pioneer Lodge.

On Saturday, August 9, 1969, a dinner social was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, Jr., of San Leandro, California. A delectable and varied buffet "fit for a king" was served and enjoyed by approximately forty friends and members of the camp. Later in the evening, colored slides and movies were shown of the building and progress of our Beloved Chapel and the July 4th Dedication Day Services.

Less than one year ago, on September 21, 1968, the first social was held in the interest of raising funds for the building of our humble camp and today the Chapel of Awareness stands free and clear of all encumbrances. It was on this day that Spirit requested the designation of the official anniversary date of Camp Serenity.

We are grateful to all the dedicated workers, friends, and members of the camp and to our Spirit loved ones who, in the eleventh hour, never faltered. With the faith, inspiration, and devotion of our Beloved President the "impossible dream" was brought into fruition. May the power of Spirit guide and direct us in this second step toward the pathway of achievement for faith fulfills the dream and becomes a Reality!

THE SPIRITUAL SCIENCE OF LIFE CHURCH
N. S. A. C.
Devotional Services
Sun. 7:45 p.m.
Rudolf Gorzolla
Pastor
157 No. 4th St. San Jose, Calif.
Public Cordially Invited

Wanted
Books on Spiritualism
and related subjects
for Camp Library
Please Mail to:
Camp Serenity office
Box 137
Forest Knolls, CA 94933

THE BROTHERHOOD SPIRITUALIST
Church Of Alameda
N.S.A.C.
Devotional Services
Sun. 7:30 P.M.
1407 9th Street
Alameda, Calif.
Only N.S.A.C. Church in East Bay
Public Cordially Invited

Camp Serenity N.S.A.C.
Forest Knolls, CA 94933

The Great Harmonia

EXCERPTS FROM THE PHYSICIAN
Vol. 1, Continued from August Issue

By Andrew Jackson Davis
Originally Published 1850

XII. Never love a child unrighteously; that is to say, never permit love to blind the perceptions, nor to smother the voice of wisdom, during your intercourse with the child: sympathy (or love) is only serviceable when wisely bestowed.

XIII. It is more easy to manage and educate a child before its birth than subsequent to that event; because the individualism is moulded, and constitutionally manufactured, more or less perfect in its native womb; and because, also, birth is before thinking and acting.

XIV. Never excessively govern, or deceive a child: former is unnatural, and the latter is wicked.

XV. Never make a child feel you to be a master, not an Inferior, nor a Superior, but an honorable associate. You should substitute **Example, Wisdom,** and **Association,** for deception, duplicity, and the so-called family Government.

XVI. You must will and act , ere the child comes to live among you, as you would have your child will and act before the world.

XVII. The unborn child is a mirror which faithfully reflects the weaknesses and imperfections, or the goodnesses and righteousness, of its immediate progenitors. The era is nigh when even the **hidden vices** and **secret transgressions** of both the ignorant and the educated parent, will be recognised and read in the face, form, and character of their offspring.

XVIII. As I have said, make your child your associate; but never cause it to bear your burthens, sleep with you, or eat your articles of food.

XIX. Learn a child to do your will ere it has **power** to resist, or words to contend with, your decisions. Never decide without a just foundation; or should you hastily decide, never alter your decisions without explaining, to the comprehension of your child, your reason or reasons for so doing. But it is far better that your child should have perfect confidence in your Wisdom.

FOUR PAGE POCKET FOLDERS, IDEAL FOR UNDERSTANDING THE "LAW OF ATTRACTION".
Fifty for $1.00, plus 25¢ mailing.

The Primates

Three primates sat on a coconut tree
Discussing things as they're said to be
Said one to the others, "Now listen you two,
There's a certain rumor that can't be true -

That MAN descended from our noble race -
The very idea is a disgrace!

No monkey ever deserted his wife, Aborted her babies and ruined her life.

And you've never known a mothermonk
To leave her babies with others to bunk,

Or to pass them on from one to another
'til they scarcely know who is their mother
And let the coconuts go to waste, Forbidding all other monks a taste.

Why, — if I'd put a fence around a coconut tree
Starvation would force you to steal from me.
(and cause me to do some things unnaturally)

Here is another thing that a monk won't do -
Go out at night, and get on a stew,

Or use a gun or club or knife, To take some other monkey's life.

YES, MAN DESCENDED, THE ORNERY CUSS,
BUT, BROTHER, HE DIDN'T DESCEND FROM US."

(Author Unknown)

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Palo Alto, California

CAMP SERENITY
will be deeply grateful for

GREEN & BLUE CHIP STAMPS

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